GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3575
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
UNIQUE ETHNIC TRIBES
Pala Shri Vincent H

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that tribes from the North-East Region and some parts in other States who have suffered social oppression or backwardness but represent unique culture, customs and ethnicity are not being treated as Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to recognize them as Scheduled Tribes to get them merged with the mainstream; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a): The criteria being followed for inclusion of community in the list of Scheduled Tribes are: (a) Indications of primitive traits; (b) Distinctive culture; (c) Geographical isolation; (d) Shyness of contact with community at large; and (e) Backwardness.

(b) & (c): The Government of India, on 15-6-1999 and further amended on 25-6-2002, has laid down the modalities for determining the claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in the Orders specifying lists for Scheduled Tribes. According to these modalities, only those proposals which have been recommended and justified by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration and concurred with by the Registrar General of India (RGI) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) are to be considered for amendment of legislation.

(d): Proposal received from the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations were processed in accordance with the modalities. A statement indicating the State/UT- wise number of proposals received in the last three years is annexed.